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Applicant	:	Michaud et al.
Serial No.	:	09/058,496
Filed	:	April 10, 1998

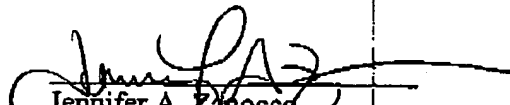Art Unit   : 2176
Examiner : William Bashore

Title   : ASSIGNING A HOT SPOT IN AN ELECTRONIC ARTWORK

Mail Stop Appeal Brief - Patents
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Attached to this facsimile communication cover sheet is a Reply Brief, faxed this 16th day

of June, 2005, to the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: June 15, 2005

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Attorney's Docket No: 07844-273001

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Michaud et al.
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JUN 16 2005

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REPLY BRIEF TO EXAMINER'S ANSWER MAILED APRIL 20, 2005

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 41.41, the applicant responds to the Examiner's Answer on pages 10 and 11 at paragraph 11(a) and page 13, paragraph 11(f) as follows.

The Limitation of Using the Opacity Data of the Selected Layer to Identify Regions

Regarding paragraph 11(a), the applicant believes that the Examiner is ignoring the limitation of "using the opacity data of the selected layer to identify one or more non-transparent regions" of claim 1. In the method of claim 1, a perimeter boundary is calculated for the non-transparent regions after the regions are identified using the opacity data. The perimeter boundary is then used to define an area. Therefore, the opacity data is used to identify the regions prior to calculating the perimeter boundary of the regions and defining the area.

The Examiner states "Mapedit's hotspots are identified by the combination of user selection and the resulting changes in color that occurs subsequent to said user selection. This identifies the region as a selected region." Mapedit requires that a user select the hotspot region by drawing a polygon. The user must draw the polygon before the hotspot can be displayed in reverse video. For reasons stated in our appeal brief, we believe the Examiner has misconstrued "opacity data". However, even ignoring the Examiner's erroneous interpretation of opacity data, the step of using the opacity data of the selected layer to identify one or more non-transparent

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regions as required by claim 1 is still not taught by Mapedit. Displaying a user defined region in reverse video is not "using the opacity data of the selected layer to identify one or more non-transparent regions", as required by claim 1.

Claims 35 and 42

Regarding paragraph 11(f), the Examiner's point is well taken. The applicant would agree to amend claims 35 and 42.

For these reasons, and the reasons stated in the Appeal Brief, Applicant submits that the final rejection should be reversed.

Please apply any charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: July 16, 2005

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